

# PrimusGFS CERTIFICATION PROCESS



PrimusGFS is a pre- and post-farm gate certification for fresh or minimally processed produce, focusing on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP), Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and food safety management systems (FSMS).

PrimusGFS is ideal for fresh produce growers, packers, processors and distributors in the U.S., Mexico, Canada and Latin America. PrimusGFS is FSMA compliant which makes it a popular option among those shipping into the United States. On average, the PrimusGFS audit can take a half day to a whole day for field audits and one to one and a half days for facility audits which includes both document review and the visual inspection.

## CERTIFICATION TIMELINE

The total certification process, from the time the audit is conducted to the certification decision, should take no more than 45 days.

Organizations have a maximum of 30 days to submit corrective actions to NSF. Once corrective actions are received, NSF has a max of 15 days to make the certification decision.

Once issued, certifications are valid for one year.

Certification Milestone	Timeframe
Audit Date	Day 0
All corrective actions responses (CARs) due from client	Day 30 after audit
Certification decision made	Day 45 after audit
Certificate validity period (additional inspections may be required)	1 year

## LOCAL UNDERSTANDING, GLOBAL REACH

NSF International is the leading global certifier to GFSI benchmarked certifications such as PrimusGFS. Our innovative food safety audit and certification services are built upon a world-class integrity program, customer-focused approach, and technical and operational excellence. With auditors and locations around the world, NSF delivers confidence and brand protection with local understanding and global reach.

For more information or if you are looking to apply for PrimusGFS certification. Contact us at [AgServices@nsf.org](mailto:AgServices@nsf.org).

## NSF INTERNATIONAL

789 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48105 USA | T +1 734 769 0109 | [www.nsf.org/info/agriculture](http://www.nsf.org/info/agriculture)

### CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Submit application to NSF

Contract approval

Audit – document review  
and visual inspection

Audit report received –  
corrective actions identified

Submit evidence of  
corrective actions to NSF

NSF reviews corrective  
actions – sends response

NSF reviews full audit report

Certification decision

If approved, certificate issued